

Message Text

PAGE 01 GENEVA 04125 032031Z

63

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11

FRB-02 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01

OMB-01 HEW-08 ABF-01 INT-08 AGR-20 RSR-01 /255 W

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TAGS ECOSOC

SUBJ 55TH ECOSOC-AGENDA ITEM 8, OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES
FOR DEVELOPMENT

1. SUMMARY. ECONOMIC COMMITTEE COMPLETED GENERAL DEBATE THIS ITEM AUGUST 2. TWENTY-SEVEN DELS MADE STATEMENTS ON ONE OR MORE OF SUB-ITEMS, WHICH WERE TREATED TOGETHER IN DEBATE. DRAFT RESOLUTIONS ON UNICEF AND UNDP (TEXTS TRANSMITTED DEPT SEPTELS) WILL PROBABLY BE CONSIDERED AT NIGHT SESSION AUGUST 3. PLANNED UNICEF ASSISTANCE TO CHILDREN IN INDOCHINA PROVOKED NO CONTROVERSY AND USSR EXPLICITLY ENDORSED USE OF IOG AS POSSIBLE CHANNEL FOR UNICEF ASSISTANCE TO INDOCHINA. DEBATE HIGHLIGHTS FOLLOW. END SUMMARY.

2. UNDP REPORTS INTRODUCED BY DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR LINDSTROM WHO NOTED GC ACTION APPROVING 82 COUNTRY PROGRAMS TO DATE. LINDSTROM SAID THAT WHILE 24 ADDITIONAL CPS SCHEDULED FOR APPROVAL AT 17TH SESSION AND FEW OTHERS AT SUBSEQUENT SESSION, UNDP PLANS TO BEGIN PLANNING CYCLE FOR NEW PROGRAM PERIOD 1977-1981 AS OF JANUARY. HE NOTED PLANNED LEVEL OF PROGRAM DELIVERY WILL NOT BE REACHED UNLESS RESOURCES INCREASE AT LEAST 15 PERCENT ANNUALLY AND REFERRED TO UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 GENEVA 04125 032031Z

FACT THAT RESOURCE GROWTH RATE IN 1972 ONLY 8 PERCENT. LINDSTROM PRAISED ACTION OF GC AT 16TH SESSION ON IPF CRITERIA ISSUE, STATING THAT ADMINISTRATION NOW CONSIDERS ITSELF IN POSITON MAKE CONCRETE RECOMMENDATIONS TO 17TH SESSION OF GC SO THAT ISSUE CAN

BE RESOLVED AT THAT SESSION. OTHER SUB-ITEMS INTRODUCED BY FARAH-OTC; AMBASSADOR REYES-UNICEF; AQUINO-WFP; KEPPEL-UNFPA. UN CO-ORDINATOR SADRY ALSO MADE BRIEF INTRODUCTORY REMARKS SUPPLEMENTING LINDSTROM'S EARLIER REFERENCES TO UNV.

3. TWENTY-SEVEN DELS INTERVENED IN DEBATE, MOST OF THEM CONCENTRATING PRIMARILY ON UNDP AND UNICEF. PHILIPPINES INTRODUCED DRAFT RESOLUTION ON UNICEF AND DUTCH SPONSORED DRAFT RESOLUTION ON UNDP. FOLLOWING POINTS WORTH NOTING EMERGED IN COURSE OF DEBATE.

(A) UNDP. BROAD CONSENSUS EVIDENT APPROVING GC HANDLING OF RESOURCE ALLOCATION CRITERIA ISSUE. SEVERAL DELS URGED THAT ECOSOC AND GA LEAVE MATTER IN COMPETENT HANDS OF UNDP GC WITH ONLY VENEZUELA AND ARGENTINA SHOWING DISPOSITION TO CONTEST GC ACTIONS IN OTHER FORA. WHILE WORK OF ORGANIZATION AND ITS GENERAL APPROACH WIDELY PRAISED AND NEED FOR GREATER RESOURCES EMPHASIZED BY MANY SPEAKERS FINLAND, BRAZIL, ALGERIA, INDIA, AND PAKISTAN AMONG OTHERS THREW BRICKBATS AT UNDP PROCUREMENT AND SUB-CONTRACTING PRACTICES. SEVERAL DELS ALSO CRITICIZED ORGANIZATION'S "TOP HEAVY HEAD-QUARTERS SUPERSTRUCTURE". WHILE AGREEING WITH COUNTRY PROGRAMMING APPROACH IN GENERAL, JAPAN NOTED UNDP NOT ONLY INTERNATIONAL AGENCY ABLE EVALUATE LDC PRIORITIES OBJECTIVELY AND INTIMATED THAT JAPAN DOES NOT FEEL ITSELF BOUND TO REFRAIN FROM SUPPORTING SPECIAL ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY UN AGENCIES OUTSIDE UNDP FRAMEWORK. CHINA CRITICIZED AID TO ISRAEL AND APPROVAL CP FOR SOUTH KOREA AND OPPOSED PARTICIPATION OF "TRAITOROUS LON NOL CLICK" IN MEKONG PROJECT. KENYA ASKED LINDSTROM TO STATE ADMINISTRATION'S ATTITUDE TOWARD NATURAL RESOURCES REVOLVING FUND AND WAS TOLD IN REPLY THAT UNDP WILL CARRY OUT WILL OF GA AS EXPRESSED AT 28 TH SESSION. EASTERN BLOC COUNTRIES COMPLAINED UNDP NOT USING THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS AND THEIR TECHNICAL EXPERTS SUFFICIENTLY. IN RESPONSE, LINDSTROM NOTED UNDP AWARENESS OF PROBLEM AND SAID OLVER HAD DISCUSSED SITUATION WITH AUTHORITIES IN MOSCOW AND ELSEWHERE WITH VIEW TO IMPROVING UTILIZATION OF SUCH CONTRIBUTIONS. POLAND ANNOUNCED INTENTION INCREASE BY 1974 CONTRIBUTION SUBSTANTIALLY AND INTENTION BECOME NET CONTRIBUTOR BUT WITHOUT ACCEPTING TARGET DATE FOR COMPLETING TRANSITION. GHANA AND OTHER LDC DELS STRESSED THAT SLOWING DOWN RATE OF PROGRAM DELIVERY NOT ACCEPTABLE WAY DEAL

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 GENEVA 04125 032031Z

WITH ANTICIPATED RESOURCE DEFICIT BY 1976. OTHER DELS MADE POINT THAT REFORMS IN PROGRAM UNDERTAKEN FOLLOWING JACKSON REPORT AND CONSENSUS MEANINGLESS IF PROGRAM DOES NOT GROW AND THAT SUCH GROWTH NOT POSSIBLE GIVEN DOLLAR DEVALUATION AND INFLATION UNLESS RESOURCES GROW AT MINIMUM RATE OF 15 PERCENT.

(B) CDF. INDIA, PAKISTAN AND OTHER LDC REPS EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR CDF AND FOR CONCENTRATING ATTENTION ON LEASE DEVELOPED. NETHERLANDS ANNOUNCED INTENTION TO MAKE SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTION TO CDF BUT OTHER DCS IGNORED CDF ISSUE.

(C) OTC. COMMISSIONER FARAH ACKNOWLEDGED EXISTENCE MANY PROBLEMS IN AREA OF PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION SUCH AS DELAYS IN RECRUITMENT OF EXPERTS AND IN PROCUREMENT. SAID OTC HOPES REDUCE AVERAGE RECRUITMENT TIME FROM 8 MONTHS TO 6 MONTHS THROUGH INTRODUCTION NEW

PROCEDURES BUT IN THIS CONNECTION CRITICIZED LONG DELAYS ENCOUNTERED IN OBTAINING LDC CONCURRENCE TO EXPERTS NOMINATED BY UN. AS EXAMPLE OTC EFFECTIVENESS FARAH NOTED SUCCESS OF MINERAL EXPLOITATION PROJECT IN FIVE LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES WHERE RECOVERABLE RESERVES OF COPPER AND IRON WITH ESTIMATED VALUE OF \$10 BILLION HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED. OTC SUB-ITEM GENERALLY IGNORED BY DELS.

(D) UNV AND UNFPA. DEL COMMENTS LARGELY ALONG LINES TAKEN IN UNDP GC AND THERE WAS NO CRITICISM OF EITHER PROGRAM. SEVERAL DCS COMMENTED FAVORABLY ON APPROPRIATENESS OF MOVE TO PLACE UNFPA UNDER GC AND ON USEFULNESS OF DISCUSSIONS HELD IN THAT FORUM.

(E) UNICEF. UNICEF PROGRAM WIDELY COMMENDED BY SPEAKERS AND IDEA OF SPECIAL PLEDGING CONFERENCE IN 1974 GENERALLY SUPPORTED, WITH FRANCE AND POLAND ONLY DELS EXPRESSING DISAGREEMENT. ECONOMIC COMMITTEE WILL PROBABLY TAKE DECISION WITH RESPECT PLEDGING CONFERENCE AT NIGHT SESSION AUGUST 3 WHEN WE EXPECT OTHER DELS (USSR, US, ETC.) WHO HAVE NOT YET ADDRESSED ISSUE TO DO SO. AMBASSADOR REYES' COMMENTS (REPORTED PREVIOUSLY) REGARDING UNICEF ASSISTANCE TO CHILDREN IN INDOCHINA LARGELY PASSED OVER IN SILENCE. IN POSSIBLY SIGNIFICANT STATEMENT, HOWEVER, USSR DEL WHILE NOTING PLANNED UNICEF ACTION IN INDOCHINA WITH APPROVAL, ENDORSED UNICEF INTENTION CONSULT WITH INDOCHINA OPERATIONAL GROUP (IOG) OF RED CROSS SAYING IOG COULD BE A CHANNEL THROUGH WHICH UNICEF COULD PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO CHILDREN IN INDOCHINA. IN SOMEWHAT SURPRISING STATEMENT PAKISTAN VOICED RATHER STRONG CRITICISM OF UNICEF OPERATIONS SAYING THAT SOME PROJECTS NOT WELL THOUGHT OUT AND WASTEFUL AND THAT UNICEF ADMIN BUDGET TOO HIGH AND GOING UP. IN UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 GENEVA 04125 032031Z

EXCHANGE WITH EXECUTIVE BOARD PRESIDENT REYES PAKISTAN DEL REFUTED SUGGESTION THAT UNICEF ADMIN COSTS ONLY 5PERCENT STATING THAT HIS CALCULATIONS SHOW THESE IN NEIGHBORHOOD 22PERCENT. UNICEF PROCUREMENT PRACTICES ALSO CAME IN FOR SOME CRITICISM FROM PAKISTAN AND A FEW OTHER LDCS.

(F) WFP. IN INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT WFP DIRECTOR AQUINO NOTED PROGRAM VOLUME IN 1973-1974 PERIOD GOING UP TO \$297.5 MILLION FROM PREVIOUS LEVEL OF \$266 MILLION. HE STRESSED HEAVY INVOLVEMENT OF WFP IN PROVIDING EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE AND ITS USEFUL CONTRIBUTIONS TO DEVELOPMENT THROUGH SUCH PROGRAMS AS FOOD FOR WORK AND CHILD FEEDING. COMMITTEE MEMBERS GENERALLY EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH WFP WITH SEVERAL DELS EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR \$440 MILLION GROWTH TARGET IN MID-DECADE.

4. USDEL STATEMENT BEING POUCHED. BASSIN

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